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CLASSIFICATION

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT REPORT NO.

CD NO.

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COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Chile

Comite pro Defensa de las Materias

Primas del Continente

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- 1. A Chilean branch of the Comite pro Defensa de las Materias Primas del Continente is to be formed in Santiago, in accordance with plans made at the Congreso de la Mineria held at Cordoba, Argentina, early in May 1952. At the Congress it was decided that the organization would have its central office in Buenos Aires, attached to the Camara de Mineria, and branch offices would be set up in Chile, Bolivia, and Peru.
- 2. Among those who are involved in setting up this committee are: Luis Carnevali, president of the Camara de Mineria of Argentina; Eulogio J. Rodriguez, Argentine; Elias Strubbia, Argentine; Roman Gonzalez Letelier, Chilean; and Franklin Zamorano, Chilean. The Committee will publish a paper called Ola (Orientador Latino-americana).
- 3. Manuel Mayo, a Chilean newspaper man who has a record of pro-Argentine sympathy and action for many years, talked with Franklin Zamorapo in Santiago and proposed that he accompany a delegation to the mining congress at Cordoba as a representative of the Chilean miners. Despite Zamorano's protest that he was a journalist and not a miner, he was urged to accept and finally did so. Mayo took Zamorano to the Argentine Embassy in Santiago, where Nestor Lima Quintana provided him with passage to Buenos Aires on Aereolineas Argentinas and a letter of introduction to Comandante Guillermo Solveyra Casares, important officer in the Oficina de Control del Estado, Argentine presidential intelligence agency. The letter reportedly described Zamorano as a great Chilean nationalist of complete confidence. On 6 May Zamorano and Ramon Gonzalez Letelier, of Monjitas 665, Santiago, departed from the airport at Santiago. Gonzalez also had a letter of introduction to Comandante Solveyra Casares, in which the Comandante was requested to obtain a personal interview for Gonzalez with Peron.

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- 4. In Buenos Aires, Solveyra Casares introduced the two delegates to Eulogio J. Rodriguez and Elias Strubbia, Argentines, with whom Gonzalez and Zamorano attended the mining congress at Cordoba on 10 May. When Gonzalez and Zamorano were introduced at the congress, those present gave an enthusiastic ovation for Carlos Ibanez del Campo, Chilean presidential candidate. The delegation returned to Buenos Aires on 11 May and waited there until the organization of the committee took place on 15 May.
- 5. It is believed that Zamorano was asked to take charge of the gathering of information for the committee's publication in Chile. However, he decided not to co-operate and returned to Santiago. It appears that his refusal was based on his belief that the committee was part of an Argentine scheme to control the strategic minerals of Chile Bolivia, and Peru. Gonzalez Letelier is believed to have accepted charge of the office of the committee in Santiago. Although Gonzalez reportedly had an appointment with Peron on 16 May, it is not known whether the interview took place.

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Comment. See

2. Comment. There is no further information on Ramon Gonzalez Letelier.

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